1	2	3	4
Chhatisgarh	119	365	471
Uttar Pradesh	3859	4114	4204
Uttaranchal	46	160	321
Gujarat	3353	3064	2982
Maharashtra	9220	13054	10071
Daman and Diu	9	10	9
Goa	172	224	188
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	13	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	3365	3415	3659
Karnataka	2733	3501	2877
Kerala	1400	1556	1607
Tamil Nadu	5482	5443	5933
Pondicherry	39	43	42
Lakshadweep	0.05	0.05	0.1

(Data Provisional)

Road Map for Banking Reforms

3446. PROF.ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to set up regulator for the pension sector and announced a road map for banking reforms which include allowing 74 percent FDI in private banks;

(b) whether according to the Common Minimum Programme there was need to strengthen financial sector regulators and run them professionally to foster competition;

(c) if so, what are the steps Government propose to take for preparing a road map for banking reforms; and

(d) by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. .S PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The banking sector reforms in India has largely followed the recommendations made by Narasimham Committee I & II in the years 1991 & 1998. This reform process initiated since 1992 in the first phase has provided necessary platform to the banking sector to operate on the basis of operational flexibility and functional autonomy, thereby enhancing efficiency, productivity and profitability. The reforms brought out structural changes in the financial sector, eased external constraints in their working, introduced transparency in reporting procedures, and have increased the competitive element in the market. The tempo of reforms is still continuing.

Speedy clearance of applications received under section 35AC of Income Tax Act

3447. SHRI CHO. S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the total number of applications received by the Income Tax Department annually for clearance under section 35AC for various projects;

(b) what is the time taken to clear such proposals;

(c) whether it is a fact that many proposals are pending for more than a year or so for clearance;

(d) what are the reasons for such undue delay for clearance of these proposals; and

(e) what steps are being taken to speed up the clearance of the pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Applications are received by the National Committee for Promotion of Social & Economic Welfare which is the authority competent to recommend the cases and the total number of applications received annually under Section 35AC of the Income-tax Act for the last three years *i.e.* 2002,2003 and 2004 is given as below: